



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/625,823	07/23/2003	Scott Goldthwaite	WS-102	7792
27769	7590	02/20/2008	EXAMINER	
AKC PATENTS			HANNON, CHRISTIAN A	
215 GROVE ST.				
NEWTON, MA 02466			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2618	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			02/20/2008	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

**Advisory Action
Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief**

Application No.	10/625,823	Applicant(s) GOLDTHWAITE ET AL.
Examiner Christian A. Hannon	Art Unit 2618	

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 14 January 2008 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) The period for reply expires _____ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
 b) The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because
 (a) They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
 (b) They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
 (c) They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
 (d) They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).

5. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.

6. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).

7. For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) will not be entered, or b) will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____.

Claim(s) objected to: _____.

Claim(s) rejected: _____.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).

9. The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).

10. The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:
See Continuation Sheet.

12. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). _____.

13. Other: _____.

CH 2/14/2008

Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: In response to applicant's argument 'A'; based on 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) the fact that the cited reference was not published in time is irrelevant, the examiner maintains in view of the statutory regulations the rejection is proper.

In response to applicant's argument 'B'; the Benson reference was used to teach connecting a smart card reader through a phone's existing SIM slot ,which in fact it does teach (Column 6, Lines 3-18; Benson), no reliance was placed on Benson to teach the contactless aspect as the examiner has relied on the Fox reference to teach this aspect.

In response to applicant's argument 'C'; the Fox reference does in fact teach a contactless smart card 'reader' in a wireless setting. Fox discloses that technology embedded in the cellular phone has the ability to " update/change [read/write] information stored within the smartcard by utilizing the cellular telephone functions to electronically communicate with an external system" (Column 2, Lines 26-29; Fox). That is to say that the piece of memory commonly referred to as a 'smartcard' housed in Fox's cellular phone has the ability to read information from said smartcard housed within. The examiner has construed this construction as a capable of being read in the broadest possible interpretation as a 'smart card reader' furthermore as Fox teaches this process being achieved in that no contact is necessary (Column 2, Lines 18-21; Fox) it is in fact a contactless smart card reader.

In response to applicant's argument 'D'; the examiner maintains that Benson disclosing that "ensur[ing] that a subscriber has an arrangement to effect payment for the services provided" (Column 4, Lines 58-60; Benson) does in fact teach using a smart card for payment. Ensuring, that is positively verifying, an arrangement that is a contract, to effect payment, to transfer monetary funds, is a means to make sure that the user has money to pay for something prior to providing that something. Nevertheless as teaching of payment via smartcard, as the applicant most likely is aware is by no means novel; as evident further in the secondary Fox reference (Column 5, Lines 1-25; Fox).

Therefore the rejection as previously set forth remains, and all claims and their dependents remain rejected..



EDWARD F. URBAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER